



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

ADVISORY

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916-653-2010
8 December 2010

FIRST GOLD STAR LICENSE PLATES TO BE PRESENTED TO FAMILIES OF LOVED ONES WHO DIED WHILE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY

SACRAMENTO – After nearly two years of effort, California will present the first Gold Star License Plates to three Gold Star families on Thursday, December 9th by Roger Brautigan, Secretary, California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) and George Valverde, Director, California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

EVENT: Presentation of the First Gold Star License Plates to Gold Star families. The families will install the plates on their vehicles immediately after the presentation.

DATE: Thursday, December 9, 2010

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: All Veterans Memorial
Capitol Park
Corner of 13th and N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

In case of rain the event will be moved into the State Capitol Council Room.

WHO: Gold Star Families; Roger Brautigan, California Secretary of Veterans Affairs; George Valverde, Director, DMV; the Honorable Jeff Denham, U.S. House of Representatives (principal co-author of the legislation that created the program); Elected Officials; Nancy Totman from Remembering the Brave Foundation; representatives from AMVETS; veterans and many more.

BACKGROUND: The Gold Star License Plate Program was created in 2008 by SB 1455 (Cogdill) signed by Governor Schwarzenegger. This legislation created a specialized license plate with a distinctive Gold Star emblazoned on the left side, which is the national symbol that has come to recognize families that have lost someone (son, daughter, husband, wife, mother, father, grandchild, grandfather) while serving in the U.S. military. This bill specifically included a provision that required CalVet to raise \$300,000 through private donations to pay for the creation of these new license plates. The money has now been raised and has been delivered to DMV. In anticipation of receiving these funds, DMV began work on the necessary programming in advance and as a result they have begun accepting applications for these Gold Star Family License plates as of December 1, 2010.

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